

DUAL CURRENCY INVESTMENT GAINING MOMENTUM IN THE MALAYSIAN MARKET

OCBC Bank customers warming up to DCI as an alternative investment

Kuala Lumpur, 13 July 2009 – With the potential to earn interest rates that are substantially higher than fixed deposits, OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad sees tremendous growth potential in Dual Currency Investments (DCI) as customers get more acquainted with this short-term non-principal protected alternative investment form.



OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad's
Head of Premier Banking Ms Tye Su Leng

According to OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad Head of Premier Banking Ms Tye Su Leng, DCI are a boon to those who conduct business transactions in the alternate currency, particularly those who use the foreign currency in the import-export business. It also appeals to those who have invested in properties and housing loans in their alternate currencies and those who have children pursuing overseas education.

Through DCI, customer's investments are made in one currency, known as the base currency, to vie for higher interest rates. Payment at maturity can either be in the base currency or in another agreed-upon currency at a

predetermined exchange rate set by the investor when the transaction is entered into.

“With tenures of between two weeks and a month, the DCI is a viable option for investors looking to make short term investments.

“DCI, which cater to high net worth individuals, have been well received and many customers are returning for more after having gained financially from it. On a daily basis, OCBC Bank offers a wide range of currency pairs for customers to choose from to suit their investment preferences. Our customers find the structured product appealing and many use it for their children’s overseas education,” Tye said.

“Due to the current market volatility and the slowdown in unit trust products, the shine seems to be upon foreign currencies as a viable alternative for investors. These are among the factors that make the DCI a market favourite.

“If one were to compare the DCI with unit trusts, the dual currency investment is a relatively new option for shorter term investments which provide higher yields whereas unit trusts are suitable mid-to-long term investments that provide wealth expansion potential. In a minimum of just two weeks, OCBC Bank’s Premier Banking customers are making their money work better for them. At OCBC Bank, we advise our customers to be prudent risk-takers and we also provide them with solutions to roll over at the appropriate, favourable currency rate.

“DCI may have been introduced a couple of years ago and response towards the DCI has always been good... but never this good. Our Premier Banking topline has improved tremendously through DCI. With double digit growth during the first quarter of this year, DCI are poised to become a key driver for OCBC Bank’s Premier Banking efforts this year,” she added.

With a minimum investment amount of RM250,000.00 and no annual management fees or sales charged imposed, the DCI is currently available at most OCBC Bank branches, Premier Banking Centres, nationwide.

About OCBC Bank

OCBC Bank is Singapore’s longest established local bank. It has assets of S\$180 billion and a network of more than 480 branches and representative offices in 15 countries and territories including Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, Hong Kong SAR, Brunei, Japan, Australia, UK and USA. This network includes more than 360 branches and offices in Indonesia operated by OCBC Bank’s subsidiary, Bank OCBC NISP. OCBC Bank and its banking subsidiaries offer a wide range of specialist financial services, from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury and stock-broking services to meet the needs of its customers across communities.

OCBC Bank’s insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the largest insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia, in terms of assets and market share, and its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors is one of the largest asset management companies in Southeast Asia. Additional information may be found at www.ocbc.com.